

REMARKS

Claims 17 and 19-43 are in the Application. Further examination on the merits is requested. Apparatus claims 11-16 and 24-29 have been cancelled. New method claims 30-43 have been added.

RESTRICTION

Applicant elects the invention of Group II, claims 17 and 19-23, and also including newly-added claims 30-43, without traverse.

Dated: 12/17, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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REPLACEMENT PARAGRAPH SHEET

[0031] In another aspect of the invention a processor 2 ~~of the type disclosed in pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/590,724, filed June 8, 2000, is used. This Application is incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein. U.S. Patent Application No. 09/950,724 discloses a processor 2 that uses~~ having an outer containment vessel and a porous vessel 4 to enhance drying.is used, as described in U.S. Patent No. 6,502,591, incorporated herein by reference.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED AFTER THE 8/25/2004 ELECTION REQUIREMENT:

1-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) A method for cleaning and drying one or more workpieces within a single process vessel, comprising in any sequence the steps of:

placing the workpieces into the process vessel;

introducing a processing fluid into the process vessel, with the processing fluid beneath the workpiece;

heating the processing fluid with a heater;

introducing ozone gas into the process vessel;

immersing the workpieces in the processing fluid within the process vessel;

introducing a drying fluid into the process vessel; and

removing the processing fluid from the process vessel.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the step of introducing the ozone gas comprises bubbling the ozone gas into the process fluid.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of continuously introducing processing fluid into the process vessel during the immersing.

21. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the step of introducing a drying gas comprises the step of introducing a dilute organic vapor above the processing fluid in the process vessel.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the dilute organic vapor comprises isopropyl alcohol.

23. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the drying fluid is a drying gas selected from the group consisting of air and nitrogen.

24-29. (Cancelled).

30. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein the drying fluid comprises an organic solvent.

31. (New) The method of claim 17 further including the step of flowing the processing fluid over a weir at one side of the process vessel.

32. (New) The method of claim 17 with the ozone introduced by spraying the ozone onto the workpieces.

33. (New) The method of claim 17 further including the step of bubbling the ozone into the processing fluid.

34. (New) A process for cleaning and drying workpieces, comprising in any sequence:

holding one or more workpieces in a process chamber;

heating a process liquid;

holding the heated process liquid in the process chamber, with the process liquid below the workpieces;

bubbling the ozone gas up through the process liquid in the process chamber;

immersing the workpieces into the process liquid in the process chamber, by raising the level of the process liquid in the process chamber, or by lowering the workpieces into the process liquid;

flowing fresh processing liquid into the process chamber, while the workpieces are immersed in the process liquid; and

drying the workpieces.

35. (New) The method of claim 34 where a fresh supply of process liquid is continuously provided into the process chamber, while the workpieces are immersed in the process liquid, by flowing fresh process liquid into the process chamber, and by draining off process liquid over a weir adjacent the surface of the process liquid.

36. (New) The method of claim 34 further including rinsing the workpieces.

37. (New) The method of claim 36 where the rinsing step is performed by spraying a rinsing liquid onto the workpieces.

38. (New) The method of claim 34 with the drying step performed by contacting the workpieces with a heated drying gas.

39. (New) The method of claim 34 further including drying the workpieces via a surface tension effect.

40. (New) The method of claim 34 further including the step of heating the process liquid while the process liquid is in the process chamber.

41. (New) The method of claim 34 further including spinning the one or more workpieces within the process chamber.

42. (New) The method of claim 34 further including sealing the chamber.

43. (New) A process for cleaning, rinsing and drying workpieces, comprising:

holding one or more workpieces in a process chamber;

heating a process liquid;

holding the heated process liquid in the process chamber, with the process liquid below the workpieces;

bubbling the ozone gas up through the process liquid in the process chamber;

immersing the workpieces into the process liquid in the process chamber, by raising the level of the process liquid in the process chamber, or by lowering the workpieces into the process liquid;

continuously flowing fresh processing liquid into the process chamber, while the workpieces are immersed in the process liquid, and draining off process liquid over a weir adjacent the surface of the process liquid;

rinsing the workpieces by spraying a rinsing liquid onto the workpieces.

drying the workpieces.

44. (New) The method of claim 43 further including spinning the workpieces in the process chamber.

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: DANA SCRANTON, ET AL.
APPLICATION NO.: 10/055,467
FILED: JANUARY 22, 2002
FOR: VAPOR CLEANING AND LIQUID RINSING PROCESS
VESSEL

EXAMINER: FRANKIE L. STINSON
ART UNIT: 1746
CONF. NO: 6380

TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the *Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment* mailed October 7, 2004,
attached are reformatted pages 1, 2 and 3, in which we moved the "In the Claims"
section to a new page.

Dated: Oct. 20, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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By: Kenneth H. Ohriner
Kenneth H. Ohriner
Reg. No. 31,646

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United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to
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October 20, 2004
Date of Deposit

Debbie Gilbert
Debbie Gilbert

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: DANA SCRANTON, ET AL.
APPLICATION NO.: 10/055,467
FILED: JANUARY 22, 2002
FOR: VAPOR CLEANING AND LIQUID RINSING PROCESS
VESSEL

EXAMINER: FRANKIE L. STINSON
ART UNIT: 1746
CONF. NO: 6380

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Restriction mailed on August 25, 2004, please amend the
Application as follows:

[Continued on the next page.]

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United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to
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October 20, 2004
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Debbie Gilbert
Debbie Gilbert

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 11-16 and 24-29, and add new claims 30-43, as shown on the attached claim sheets.

SPECIFICATION

A replacement paragraph [0031] is attached, reflecting the patented status of
Serial No. 09/590,724.

Please acknowledge receipt of the following by affixing hereon the Patent and Trademark Office date stamp and returning this card to our office.

Applicants: Dana SCRANTON *et al.*
Serial No.: 10/055,467
For: Vapor Cleaning and Liquid Rinsing Process
Vessel
Filed: January 22, 2002

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

Attorney(s): Kenneth H. Ohriner
Docket No.: 54008.8074.US00 (P01-0020)
Date of Deposit: October 20, 2004, via U.S. Mail
Enclosure(s): Transmittal letter, with attached copies of
reformatted pages 1, 2, and 3; and a return
postcard.

Please acknowledge receipt of the following by affixing hereon the Patent and Trademark Office date stamp and returning this card to our office.

Applicants: Dana SCRANTON *et al.*
Serial No.: 10/055,467
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/055,467	01/22/2002	Dana Scranton	258/116	6380

34055 7590 11/19/2004

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 SEATTLE, WA 98111-1208

EXAMINER

STINSON, FRANKIE L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1746

DATE MAILED: 11/19/2004

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PERKINS COIE

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

10/055467

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**Failure to Acceptably Respond to
Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)
No New Time Period for Reply is Provided**

The amendment document filed on 10-26-04 fails to provide the corrective action required by the prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121) mailed on 10-7-04. The amendment, including both the originally filed amendment and the amendment filed in response to the prior notice, is still considered to be non-compliant under 37 CFR 1.121. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the item(s) listed below is required. **Only the corrected section of the non-compliant amendment document must be resubmitted (in its entirety), e.g., the entire "Amendments to the claims" section of applicant's amendment document must be re-submitted.** 37 CFR 1.121(h).

The period for reply continues to run from the mailing date of the prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. The corrections listed below must be timely filed to avoid abandonment of the application. No new time period for reply is provided in this communication. See the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) § 714.03.

If the period for reply set forth in the prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment has expired, this application will become abandoned unless applicant: (1) corrects the deficiency, and (2) obtains an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no case may an applicant reply outside the SIX (6) MONTH statutory period or obtain an extension for more than FIVE (5) MONTHS beyond the date for reply set forth in the prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121).

THE FOLLOWING CHECKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- ☐ 1. Amendments to the specification:
- ☐ A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
 - ☐ B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
 - ☐ C. Other _____
- ☐ 2. Abstract:
- ☐ A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
 - ☐ B. Other _____
- ☐ 3. Amendments to the drawings: _____
- ☒ 4. Amendments to the claims:
- ☒ A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
 - ☐ B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
 - ☐ C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following 7 status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Withdrawn), (Previously presented), (New) and (Not entered).
 - ☐ D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
 - ☐ E. Other: _____

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP § 714 and the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/officeflyer.pdf>.

Supervisory Legal Instruments Examiner (SLIE)

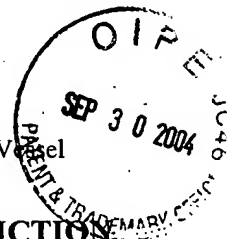
Mark Lawrence

Telephone No.

(571) 218-1025

Please acknowledge receipt of the following by affixing hereon the Patent and Trademark Office date stamp and returning this card to our office.

Applicants: Dana SCRANTON *et al.*
Serial No.: 10/055,467
For: Vapor Cleaning and Liquid Rinsing Process Vessel
Filed: January 22, 2002



**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT**

Attorney(s): Kenneth H. Ohriner
Docket No.: 54008.8074.US00 (P01-0020)
Date of Deposit: September 27, 2004, via U.S. Mail
Enclosure(s): Amendment in Response to Restriction Requirement (8 pages);
Transmittal Letter and a return postcard.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/055,467	01/22/2002	Dana Scranton	258/116	6380

34055 7590 10/07/2004

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EXAMINER

STINSON, FRANKIE L

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1746

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2004

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Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)

The amendment document filed on 9/30/04 is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required. **Only the corrected section of the non-compliant amendment document must be resubmitted (in its entirety), e.g., the entire "Amendments to the claims" section of applicant's amendment document must be re-submitted.** 37 CFR 1.121(h).

THE FOLLOWING CHECKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- ☐ 1. Amendments to the specification:
- ☐ A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
 - ☐ B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
 - ☐ C. Other _____
- ☐ 2. Abstract:
- ☐ A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
 - ☐ B. Other _____
- ☐ 3. Amendments to the drawings: _____
- ☒ 4. Amendments to the claims:
- ☐ A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
 - ☐ B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
 - ☐ C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following 7 status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Withdrawn), (Previously presented), (New) and (Not entered).
 - ☐ D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
 - ☒ E. Other: Amends to the claims does not start on a separate

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP Sec. 714 and the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/office/ver.pdf>.

If the non-compliant amendment is a **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**, applicant is given ONE MONTH from the mail date of this letter to supply the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121. Failure to comply with 37 CFR 1.121 will result in non-entry of the preliminary amendment and examination on the merits will commence without consideration of the proposed changes in the preliminary amendment(s). This notice is not an action under 35 U.S.C. 132, and this **ONE MONTH time limit is not extendable**.

If the non-compliant amendment is a reply to a **NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION** (including a submission for an RCE), and since the amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to be a reply (37 CFR 1.135(c)), applicant is given a **TIME PERIOD** of ONE MONTH from the mailing of this notice within which to re-submit the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121 in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD ARE AVAILABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

If the amendment is a reply to a **FINAL REJECTION**, this form may be an attachment to an Advisory Action. The period for response to a final rejection continues to run from the date set in the final rejection, and is not affected by the non-compliant status of the amendment.

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